

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JUNE 16, 2016

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Mario Bergeron, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Mario Bergeron, Dale Engelhardt, Jeff Gordon, Lynn Harris for Allan Paul, Marci Petterson, Jennifer Bastian, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Eric Curtit, Tammy Krause, Jay Gilfillan, Sal DeAngelo, Jeff Schultz, Art Peterson, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, Steve Hewitt, Industry Members: Jack Madden, Tony Jones, Paul Jamieson, Rich Stegner, Pat Sheeran, Al Bieber, Richard Curtis, James Michel, Kevin Myles, Bill Slater, Martin Bloedt, Tom Hunt, Glen Rees
ABSENTEES	Jason Biggs, Momoko Tamaoki, Allan Paul, Charlie Poltenson, Vincent Brotski, Michael Burshtin, Andrew Wood, Jonathan Hines, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Nico Lindenau, Curtis McDowell, Michael Coltman, Brian Marquis, Larry Salci, Shayne Gill,

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Chairman Mario Bergeron, Amtrak, called today's meeting to order, asking Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

After calling the roll, Steve confirmed the presence of a quorum.

As always, industry participants are asked to email a notification of their attendance to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com

2.

Review of the Meeting Agenda – Mario Bergeron:

Mario Bergeron provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda, and noted that, in addition to the usual agenda items, today agenda item 8 is a new item which will focus on assigning the subcommittee's 5 technical working groups to begin reviews of the Single Level Car; the DMU, and the Single Level Trainset specifications to update them as appropriate, including a review all of the changes to the Bi-Level Car specification up through C.4 to determine what changes in that specification are applicable to the 3 aforementioned single level specifications.

3.

Review of Action Items that are not on the agenda – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items, providing a brief update on only those items that were not to be specifically covered on the agenda:

Maintaining Industry Participation List: Status: There are currently **260** registered industry participants.

Updating ECP Standards: This is an ongoing item which the Technical subcommittee is tracking – it is anticipated that status updates will take place on every other call.

Status: Nothing new to report today.

Requesting Backgrounder educational document: The NGENC Executive Board has approved final changes to a new "two-pager" education and outreach document. MO DOT is finalizing with the recommended changes, and once completed, it will be printed by AASHTO and made available to all members.

Status: No change from the last report.

AWG Update: As of 4-7-16, work was progressing and outreach had been made to the FRA Office of Safety with regard to containment and possible testing. An AWG meeting will be arranged in the near future to discuss this and other issues. On 5-19-16, Melissa Shurland reported that she is working with Amtrak on finalizing the layouts and anticipates having an AWG web-conference call in early June.

Status: Nothing new to report today.

RVAAC Update: RVAAC presented its recommendations for improved access on rail vehicles to the Access Board on July 29, 2015. Melissa will keep the Tech SC apprised as deliberations conclude. There is a backlog in rulemaking projects, and so it was not decided how and when to proceed with those recommendations. Anyone who would like the link to the RVAAC report should contact Melissa Shurland, at Melissa.shurland@dot.gov.

Status: Nothing new to report for today.

Review/approval of summary of changes – Bi-Level car C.4 – The subcommittee approved the Bi-Level Car Specification Revision C.4 on 5-19-16.

Status: The Review Panel has been formally re-convened by the Executive Board. Larry Salci is completing his review and will prepare a report with recommendations for the Panel to consider. Once the Panel has met and approved the report with recommendations, it will be submitted to the Executive Board for its consideration.

GAO project: The GAO team has received agency comments on its Rail Grant Oversight draft from FRA and are in the midst of final report processing. Once the report is final, the GAO team will send it to Steve Hewitt. (Task complete)

Status: The GAO report has been released. Steve Hewitt provided the link to the report to all members of the subcommittee and the Executive Board. **Task complete.**

4.

Approve Minutes from May 19, 2016 – Mario Bergeron:

On a motion by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, and a second by Jeff Gordon, FRA, the Minutes from the 5-19-16 Technical subcommittee conference call meeting were approved without exception.

5.

Update: Diesel-electric Locomotive Procurement – Jennifer Bastian, IDOT:

Jennifer Bastian provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

Prefacing her report, Jennifer announced that the first two pilot locomotives are on their way (being transported by Amtrak) to TTCI for testing. They were picked up today by Amtrak. Mario Bergeron confirmed they have left Siemens and are on their way. Mario added that there are certain milestone moments that occur in a procurement and "this is one, with the pilot locomotives having left Siemens today – congratulations!"

- *All previous invoices for project milestones have been paid by IDOT. New invoices for Change Order #5 (Grab Handles) and Change Order #20 (Layer 3 Switch for XITCS) are being processed by IDOT.*
- *JPEs received Siemens' revised schedule and conduct weekly conference calls. Although some delay for the first 11 locomotives and a 6-day delay for the balance of the production, the overall schedule for delivery of the last locomotive is still within the ARRA funding window.*
- *All of the supplier's factory FAIs are complete. The remaining FAIs were conducted June 7-9 at Siemens' factory. The FAI for the first complete locomotive is complete with follow-up action items. The FRA sample car inspection was also conducted, with a few labeling items for correction and one step rung to adjust.*
- *The first two pilot locomotives are being shipped to TTCI today, by Amtrak.*
- *The next QA meeting will be resumed in July.*
- *The Tier-4 Certificate has been received by Siemens/Cummins for the diesel engine. Load testing for the engine continues this week at Siemens factory.*
- *IDOT has added a third in-plant QA inspector to cover inspections for our option locomotives.*
- *All fifteen (15 ea) DCRs have been sent to Tammy Krause, for processing by NGEC.*
- *The test plan for 125 mph testing on the North East Corridor was submitted to FRA by (Maryland MARC Train Service) MARC. (approved by FRA today)*
- *Each JPE are working out details for pre-revenue test plans.*
- *Follow up Technical Advisory Groups (TAG) continue working on an on-going basis for the action items from the AAR Standard vehicle qualification testing and acceptance. AAR's David Cackovic is the facilitator.*
- *The Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) planning team met June 14th.*
- *The locomotive weight was reported in May 2016, at 271,500 lbs (+/-). Based on actual component weights, the locomotive weight has varied little in the last six months. The calculated P2 force is within specified limits. We are advised that the first scale-weight for a completed locomotive is trending less than the calculated weight. We will likely have the actual weight in the next few weeks, however things still look good.*

**6.
Update: DEF Working Group – Jennifer Bastian:**

Jennifer Bastian reported:

The DEF working group met on June 4th and some of the issues/items discussed included:

Storage in the Mid-West – long and short term.

How meter usage of DEF will be tracked for billing purposes.

On Board Information as it pertains to DEF.

The EPA monitoring for DEF.

Update on DEF procurement activities.

Testing at Pueblo by Siemens and Amtrak will take place for DEF as well.

**7.
Update: Bi-Level Car Procurement – Steve Hewitt for Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:**

Momo Tamaoki provided the following update on the Bi-Level car procurement for inclusion in today's minutes, Steve Hewitt read them into the record:

- *FAIs – FAI for Manual Door was conducted on May 24. There are minor open items that need to be closed. The next upcoming FAI is the follow up FAI for Truck Assembly on July 12. We are reviewing truck drawings as we speak and we will likely officially approve them next week.*
- *Carshell –The Carshell update meeting was held on June 6 via web conference. The following points are the highlights of what happened during the conference:

Ø A number of action items have been closed.
Ø Design of the fuse and energy absorber are due to be complete within the next week or so.
Ø Weight reductions are being identified as part of the rework.
Ø Further mockup samples will be produced.*
- *Testing –Seat Burn Test is scheduled for June 22 and the seat dynamic test is scheduled for June 27. It will probably take 1.5 days to run all tests.*
- *Misc. – Draft manual for battery has been submitted. Caltrans received comments from SMEs, and the comments will be provided to NS.*

**8.
New Item: Assign technical working groups to begin review of the PRIIA Specifications for the Single Level cars, trainsets and DMUs - Compare with Bi-Level Car specification changes and recommend updates as applicable – Mario Bergeron:**

Mario Bergeron, again, introduced this agenda item by noting that the Bi-Level car specification is currently under review to approve Revision C.4. In anticipation that it will be adopted soon, the effort today is to organize the technical working groups for a review of the Single Level car, trainsets, and DMUs to confirm that they are consistent with those applicable changes made to C.4.

Tammy Krause, Revision Control Coordinator (RCC), stated that she was prepared to send the table of Revisions contained in C.4 to the Technical Working groups and to ask that they begin a review of those items applicable to the other specs.

Mario suggested that the groups should wait until the Executive Board has formally adopted C.4 before beginning the review.

Steve Hewitt suggested that Tammy also re-affirm that each of the team leaders intends to continue in that role, and to ask that they do the same with the members of each working group.

The current technical working groups and the team leader for each are:

Mechanical – Jeff Gordon, FRA

Electrical – Tammy Krause, Amtrak

VTI - Brian Marquis, Volpe

Structural - Anand Prabhakaran, Sharma and Associates

Interior – Andrew Wood, Amtrak

Locomotive – Rich Stegner (see agenda item 9) SNC - Lavalin

Tammy noted that she believes all leaders are interested in continuing, but will send an email asking for confirmation.

Steve Hewitt also noted that there are quite a few new members of the subcommittee - core team and industry participants who may not be aware of the activities of these technical working groups, and who may be willing to participate.

Tammy agreed to provide Steve Hewitt with an email description for dissemination to all members of the Technical subcommittee extending an invite to all interested members to participate on one any of the working groups that they may be interested in.

Steve noted that this is an opportunity to get members engaged in the process and will provide some new insight and experience as well.

Jeff Gordon, FRA, asked if the review is restricted to only those changes reflected in the Bi-Level specification up to C.4, or can other changes be offered. He cited an analysis that is preferred that would provide a slight improvement by making certain things a requirement.

Tammy stated that changes are always welcome, and there are likely others that have not yet been compiled into a revision for these specs. Jeff would simply need to submit a DCR and it will be addressed through the process.

The topic of the All Aboard Florida (AAF) procurement became a part of the discussion, with Paul Jamieson mentioning that there have been changes made to the PRIIA Specifications during the AAF procurement process and It would be helpful to know what those changes are in order to potentially improve the PRIIA spec.

Mario mentioned that he and Steve Hewitt had recently had a similar discussion, and he had asked Steve to research the topic to see what efforts were made by the Executive Board to request that AAF provide the NGEC with feedback and to keep us informed of changes that they may make to the specification.

Steve noted that he researched past minutes and highlighted, in an email to Mario, the outreach that had been made by NGEC Chairman Eric Curtit, to Siemens (the AAF manufacturer) and the response received. Briefly, the response was luke warm with regard to providing the NGEC with the requested feedback.

Eric Curtit, who had joined the today's call, confirmed Steve's analysis of the outreach and response.

It was agreed that some follow up would be helpful.

Dave "Emeritus" Warner (former RCC for the NGEC) commented that he was glad that the subcommittee is going to undertake the review and update of the specifications. He added that the working groups may well find that there are changes to the boiler plate chapters – 2,3, and 18 that "you would want to include in the Single Level specification and that "should be disseminated out to the other specs." He added that Document Control needs to create a Revision D which mimics C.4 taking changes that may come up in the review and create a D.1. C.4 involves and active procurement so changes being made to the Bi-Level to create C.4 are coming through the procurement process, thus the need for a revision D which can be used to add changes outside to the procurement as the teams conduct their reviews.

Tammy Krause noted that “we have Revision D compiled already, but have not asked the technical writer, Cameron Cordell to go through it and put it in final form”.

It was agreed that this exercise would take place after the working groups have completed their reviews.

Mario Bergeron provided a summary of recent interaction between the NGEC and VIA Rail, Canada:

VIA Rail had requested authorization from the NGEC to reference the PRIIA Single Level Specification as it creates a performance spec for new equipment which would foster interoperability between the US and Canada and would create standards that would enable cross border travel without the need to seek waivers.

Mario explained that the NGEC Executive Board sent a response back (from Chairman Curtit to VIA Rail) that encouraged them to use the PRIIA Specification and to more specifically reference sections of the specification that applied to safety and other such requirements that would meet with the usually stricter US requirements.

The letter also requested that VIA Rail provide the NGEC with feedback as they utilize the PRIIA spec, and inform us of any changes they may make as they go through the process. VIA Rail was also invited to join the NGEC as industry participants.

Via Rail responded promptly, thanking the NGEC for authorizing them to use the PRIIA specs and agreeing to keep the NGEC informed as to any changes they may make, and provide feedback throughout the process. VIA Rail has not yet decided whether it will join the NGEC as an industry participant, but will let Eric and Mario know of their decision.

All in all, this is a great opportunity and a very positive step towards standardization and interoperability across the US and Canadian border.

**9.
Document Control Update: Tammy Krause:**

Tammy Krause provided the following report for inclusion in today’s minutes:

“All of the Diesel Locomotive Change Requests have been sent to the members of the Locomotive Working Group for their review. I am happy to announce that Richard Stegner will be taking over as the leader of the Locomotive Group. I would like to thank Jack Madden for all the hard work he put in as the previous leader and I hope everybody will provide Richard with the same support. Thank you.”

Additionally, Mario Bergeron thanked Richard for having agreed to serve as locomotive team leader, and Tammy agreed to provide Richard with the list and contact information for the locomotive working group members.

Jack Madden, who was on the call, added that he will be happy to stay on as a member of the working group and offered to help Richard “in any way I can.”

**10.
AAR Committee Update – Jeff Gordon, FRA:**

Jeff Gordon reported that the AAR committee met for a 3-hour conference call on May 27th. The call was widely attended and the discussion focused on three primary topics:

Loss of Shunt; VTI, and Interoperability.

Jeff provided a brief overview of the discussion on each topic.

Loss of shunt – as a result of loss of shunt performance testing requirements are to be established. TTC may have a draft test program.

Interoperability – items discussed included braking, clearance diagrams; among other items, and AAR’s desire to have alignment without couplers.

Al Bieber, was on the call today and added, "As Jeff mentioned, Dave Cackovic (AAR) is leading development of the passenger standard and Mike Fore (AAR) is leading the effort to create an alignment control specification to specify the necessary characteristics."

VTI – model testing, low speed duration, among the items discussed, with a sub group having been spun off from the larger VTI group.

The decisions made will be embodied in an updated document.

The next meeting has not been scheduled yet, but could well be sometime in July.

**11.
Other Issues:**

Tony Jones, Voith Turbo, commented that he had reached out to AAR with question about a specific requirement issue, which he assumes is due to the shipment of locomotives to their customers. He has not received a response from AAR and asked who he should reach out to. Jeff Gordon will provide Tony with a contact at AAR.

Paul Jamieson reported that the APTA conference to be held in Phoenix next week will include a session (3:45PM June 20th) to report on the ECP project status.

As a follow up to that session, Paul will ask APTA if it would be ok to use the presentation to walk through on the next NGENC Technical subcommittee call. If they are ok with him using their presentation, he will let Steve Hewitt know, and Steve will add it to the next subcommittee call as an agenda item.

Adjourn:

With no other issues to come before the subcommittee today, Mario Bergeron adjourned today's conference call meeting at 3:54PM Eastern.

Next Call: June 30, 2016 – 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

Updating ECP Standards: This is an ongoing item which the Technical subcommittee is tracking – it is anticipated that status updates will take place on every other call. (ongoing)

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AWG Update: Melissa Shurland reported that she is working with Amtrak on finalizing the layouts and anticipates having an AWG web-conference call in early June. (ongoing)

RVAAC Update: RVAAC presented its recommendations for improved access on rail vehicles to the Access Board on July 29, 2015. Melissa will keep the Tech SC apprised as deliberations conclude. There is a backlog in rulemaking projects, and so it was not decided how and when to proceed with those recommendations. Anyone who would like the link to the RVAAC report should contact Melissa Shurland, at Melissa.shurland@dot.gov.

Requesting Background educational document: The Executive Board is currently finalizing a new "two-pager" education and outreach document. Once approved, it will be printed by AASHTO and made available to all members. (ongoing)

Maintaining Industry Participation List: This remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **260** registered industry participants. (Ongoing)

DEF Working Group: Progress continues and regular bi-weekly updates are provided to the subcommittee. (Ongoing)

AAR Committee: The committee has been reactivated and three of the 7 sub-groups (Loss of Shunt, VTI and Interoperability) met on 5-27-16 for a 3-hour call. Brief details are described in the minutes of today's call. The next update is due: 7-14-16. (Ongoing)

Procurement Updates: Progress reports from the lead states on the two PRIIA multi-state equipment procurements are provided on each technical subcommittee call. (ongoing)

Today – a milestone took place with regard to the locomotive procurement with two pilot locomotives being taken by Amtrak from Siemens to TTCI. (They are on their way)

Review/approval of summary of changes – Bi-Level car C.4 – The Review Panel has been re-convened. Larry Salci is completing his review and preparing a report with recommendations for the Panel to consider. Once the Panel has met and approved the report with recommendations, it will be submitted to the executive Board for its consideration.

Technical working groups Review/Update of the three PRIIA Single Level Specifications (car, trainsets, DMUs): On 6-16-16 Mario Bergeron directed the technical working groups to organize to begin a review/update of the aforementioned specifications once the Bi-Level Car Specification Revision C.4 has been formally adopted. The working groups will review the Bi-Level changes as applicable to the single level specs and also look at other proposed DCRs for inclusion in updated specification revisions.

Tammy Krause will reach out to working group team leaders to re-affirm their continued interest in staying on as team leaders.

The team leaders will do outreach to the members of their respective working groups to ascertain their continued involvement.

Tammy Krause will send a description of the technical working groups and an invitation to all technical subcommittee members and industry participants to join the teams. Steve Hewitt will disseminate the description and invite.

Appointing a team leader for the Locomotive working group: Tammy Krause, today, announced the appointment of Richard Stegner, SNC – Lavalin, as team leader of the Locomotive working group. Tammy will provide Richard with the contact information for all current members of the team.

ATTACHMENTS

Next Generation
Equipment Committee



The NGEC will provide national leadership in standardization, acquisition, financing and management of passenger rail equipment.

PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

June 16, 2016

The agenda for the meeting is below:

1. Roll Call

Steve Hewitt

2. Review meeting agenda Mario Bergeron
3. Review Action Items Steve Hewitt
4. Approve Minutes of May, 19 2016 Mario Bergeron
5. Update: Diesel-Electric Procurement Jennifer Bastian
6. Update: DEF Working Group Jennifer Bastian
7. Update: Bi-level Procurement Steve Hewitt for Momo Tamaoki
8. New Item: Assign technical working groups to begin review of Mario Bergeron
PRIIA Specification 305-003 Rev A and the initial release DMU and trainset specifications
- Compare with Bi-Level Car specification changes (up through C.4)and recommend updates as applicable
9. Document Control Update Tammy Krause
 - a. Re-convene technical working groups – verify team leaders and members
 - b. Status Update: Appointing a team leader for the Locomotive Technical working group
 - c. Status Update: Diesel-Electric Locomotive specification DCRs
10. AAR Update Jeff Gordon
11. Other Issues All
12. Review this meeting: Steve Hewitt
 - a) Decisions
 - b) New Action Items

Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday 6-16 - 2016 / 3:00 Eastern / 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#
Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.
Thank you
Next Call – 6-30-16 at 3:00pm Eastern